

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 103087
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TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR, HK

SUBJECT:NIDA-FUNDED OUTPATIENT ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT
PROGRAM FOR DRUG ADDICTS

REF: HONG KONG 3896

1. NIDA WISHES TO CLARIFY THE BASIS ON WHICH THE
ACUPUNCTURE PROJECT WAS NOT FUNDED FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR.
NIDA SUPPORT WAS NOT CONTINUED BECAUSE THE HKG MOVED WELL
AHEAD OF ITS ANTICIPATED TIME TABLE AND WILL COMPLETE ALL
TASKS CONTEMPLATED FOR THE SECOND YEAR OF FUNDING WITHIN
A ONE YEAR PERIOD. RESULTS FROM THIS PROJECT OFFER CON-
SIDERABLE REASON FOR OPTIMISM ALTHOUGH, LIKE ALL TREATMENT
EFFORTS KNOWN, THE TECHNIQUE CAN BENEFIT FROM ADDITIONAL
WORK. THIS PROJECT WAS UNDERTAKEN TO DETERMINE: A.
WHETHER OR NOT OUTPATIENT ACUPUNCTURE COULD ATTRACT
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PAGE 02 STATE 103087

SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF CLIENTS INTO TREATMENT, AND B.
THE EFFICACY OF OUTPATIENT ACUPUNCTURE AS A DETOXIFICATION
PROCEDURE. THE ABILITY OF THIS TECHNIQUE TO ATTRACT
CLIENTS INTO TREATMENT HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED BEYOND QUES-
TION. EFFICIENCY OF OUTPATIENT DETOXIFICATION WITH
ACUPUNCTURE IS STILL UNDER STUDY BUT THE CONCLUSION THAT
ACUPUNCTURE IS LESS EFFICACIOUS THAN OTHER METHODS OF

DETOXIFICATION IS PREMATURE.

2. PROJECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE DESIGN OF THE HKG ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT PROGRAM ARE NOW BEING INITIATED IN SELECTED US CITIES.

3. FOR THESE REASONS NIDA RECOMMENDS THAT THE HKG BE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE USE OF THE TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERIENCE ACQUIRED IN THIS INITIAL STUDY AND TO CONSIDER INCORPORATING ACUPUNCTURE INTO THEIR LONG-TERM TREATMENT PROGRAM.

4. DR. BARRY BROWN, PROJECT OFFICER, PLANS TO VISIT HONG KONG MAY 13-17 TO ASSIST IN THE ANALYSIS OF THE DATA AND REPORT WRITING TO MAKE THE PROJECT RESULTS AS USEFUL AS POSSIBLE TO THE UNITED STATES TREATMENT COMMUNITY. HE WOULD APPRECIATE APPOINTMENTS WITH COMMISSIONER LEE AND DR. WEN. INITIAL MEETING WITH SENIOR CONSULATE REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS THE PROJECT WOULD BE HELPFUL WITH MONDAY AFTERNOON, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY WORKING SESSIONS WITH DR. H. L. WEN AND HIS STAFF.

5. REQUEST CONGEN RESERVE SINGLE ROOM FOR NIGHTS OF MAY 13 THROUGH 17 AT MERLIN, GRAND OR SIMILARLY-PRICED HOTEL WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF STAR FERRY, KOWLOON. CHRISTOPHER

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